

January 22, 2018

Members,
FCC
445 12th street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

**RE:MY STRONG SUPPORT FOR THE LIFELINE PROGRAM, WC DOCKET
NUMBERS 17-287, 11-42, 09-197**

Dear Commissioner,

The ability to effectively communicate with the world outside of your home is of the utmost importance. It is for this reason that I support a robust Lifeline program. I urge you to reject the proposals to decimate the program which are currently before you.

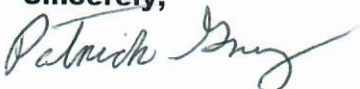
Lifeline program has worked and has helped many Americans who were unable to afford basic telephone service since the program began in 1985. More American Seniors can call loved ones, neighbors, or emergency services because of the Lifeline program. Lifeline has enabled veterans to access the health, educational, and financial benefits to which they are entitled. For low income families, a phone is a key connection to education and economic opportunities and also safety during times of emergencies.

Current proposals would harm the Lifeline program by:

- Eliminating service for approximately 75% of current participants including mobile services;
- Restricting voice service support to only low-income households in rural areas
- Install a lifetime cap on Lifeline recipients
- Place an overall budget cap on the Lifeline program

Please act to protect the Lifeline program and reject these proposals. I urge you to work to implement transition from telephone only to include broadband internet service. Help to close the digital divide in America. Further promote Lifeline so that all Americans may have access to communication. Thank you for hearing my views.

Sincerely,



Patrick Gray
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Nipomo, CA 93444